

**the**

# **KALIFORNSKI**

Since 1979

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## **NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION, INC.**

P.O. Box 226, Watsonville, California 95077

(A NON-PROFIT, NON-RELIGIOUS, & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

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EDITORS: Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

Contact at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, California 95076

(408) 724-2900

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**HOPE YOU MADE YOUR  
RESERVATIONS IN TIME!**

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**SEE YOU AT  
THE Y.A.C.O. DINNER**

**NEXT SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 6th  
Cocktails at 6 / Dinner at 7**

**AT THE ELKS LODGE  
Corner East Lake & Martinelli**

*Also -*

*MADONNA MANOR  
is holding its annual fundraiser  
"WESTERN ROUNDUP" BAR-B-Q  
from 1 to 3, Saturday, Oct. 13th  
at Madonna Manor Retirement Home  
1335 Byron Drive, Salinas*

*Tickets are \$10.00  
Call Sister Sebastian Adza, 758-0931  
for information or tickets*

Dear members,

Beginning January 1, 1991 the Kalifornski will become a quarterly newsletter. Scheduled to be printed the following months: January, April, July and October.

Our Board of Directors has evaluated the effectiveness of the Kalifornski. Along with your input it has been determined that a quality newsletter is desired.

We need your help in providing interesting tidbits, whether they are informative (recipes, songs or historical news) or just plain fun (positive local gossip, jokes or poems).

We know there is a lot of enthusiastic members just waiting for the chance to participate. Well, here it is...GATHER UP YOUR IDEAS and call 724-1284.

We hope to here from you!

Debra Moonan  
Secretary

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#### COMMITTEES:

Ella Korach, Dessert ..... 724-5532  
Jo Puhera, Sunshine ..... 724-8930  
Mary Basich, Bake Sale ..... 724-3637  
Ann Cernokus, Decorating ..... 724-5179  
Ron Hill, Membership ..... 724-1284

#### Yugoslav Radio Hour

Remember to listen to the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. on radio station KOMY, 1340 on the dial.

ANN & ANDY SOLDO are your hosts and bring you the finest in old favorites as well as the very latest music from Yugoslavia. They will be happy to play any special requests you might ask for whether it be for birthday, anniversary, or for any special announcement.

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# Potpouri

## TABLE OF PRONUNCIATION AND THE ALPHABETS

Latin	Approximate pronunciation	Cyrillic
	Ex. mama (mum)	Printed Cursive
A a	a in father	А а
B b	as English b	Б б
C c	ts in cats	Ц ц
Č č	ch in church	Ч ч
Ć č	roughly ij	Ќ ѕ
D d	as English d	Д д
Dž dž	J in John	Дž дž
Dđ đ	roughly dj	Дđ đ
E e	e in bed	Е е
F f	as English f	Ф ф
G g	as English g	Г г
H h	ch in loch	Х х
I i	e in he	И и
J j	y in yes	Ј ј
K k	as English k	К к
L l	as English l	Л л
Lj lj	ll in million	Љ љ
M m	as English m	М м
N n	as English n	Н н
Nj nj	n in news	Њ њ
O o	o in not	О о
P p	as English p	П п
R r	rolled	Р р
S s	ss in bless	С с
Š š	sh in shy	Ш ш
T t	as English t	Т т
U u	oo in food	У у
V v	as English v	В в
Z z	as English z	З з
Ž ž	š in pleasure	Ж ж

Cyrillic order А Б В Г Џ Д Е Ж З И Ј К А Ђ М Н Џ  
Б О Џ Р С Т Ј У Ф Х Џ Ќ Џ Џ Џ

## BASIC QUESTIONS

59. What do you want? Šta želite? *sh-ta ZHIE-lee-te?*
60. When? Kada (OR: Kad)? *KA-da* (OR: *kad*)?
61. When does it [leave]? Kadu [odlazi]?  
*KA-da /OD-la-ze?*
62. — arrvle. — dolaziti. — *DO-la-zee?*
63. — begin. — počinje. — *PO-chee-n'e.*
64. — end. — se završava. — *se za-VÜR-sha-va.*
65. Where? Gde? *gde?*
66. Where is it? Gde je to? *gde ye to?*
67. Why? Zašto? *ZA-shto?*
68. How? Kako? *KA-ko?*
69. How long? Koliko dugo? *ko-LEE-ko DOO-go?*
70. How far? Koliko daleko? *ko-LEE-ko da-LE-ko?*
71. How much? (OR: How many?) Koliko? *ko-LEE-ko?*
72. How do you do it? Kako vi to radite?  
*KA-ko vee to RA-dee-te?*
73. How does it work? Kako to radi?

First on the list is Good Thoughts and Positive Energies to Lucille Bechis, Mary Gidzich and Anna Jurach. Please, all members direct your energies in their direction . . . Ron and I have been working the Fair Information Desk for four nights (as volunteers), and here are the YACOs we saw: M/M John Lukrich, M/M Ted Bohn, George Basich, Jo Puhera, Ann Cernokus, Mary Burdick, Micheal Kalich, M/M John Franusich, M/M Rex Clark, M/M John Kusanovich, M/M Frank Zadravec. It gets mighty cold after the sun sets. There are a lot of changes taking place out there. Not all of the vendors were that happy. Almost every one complained about there not being any apple pie, strawberry shortcake, and fried artichokes. I guess nothing stays the same; change is inevitable . . . I think I told you that Ron and I both work out at the hospital now. He does the cooking and I do the serving. He does a "Blue Plate Special" for \$2.75. You must come out and try it . . . If you are looking for someplace new to go out for breakfast, try Severino's. It's clean, neat, good atmosphere, reasonable prices and relaxing scenery. Try it for a change . . . Familiar faces at the meeting: Stella Lucich, Catherine Zar, Irene Strazicich, Ella Korach, Naida Nicholas, Nina Matulich, Ann Cernokus, Jo Puhera, Steve and Slavica Zalac, Frank and Jacqueline Zadravec, Debbie Moonan, John Biskup, Andy Gulermovich. Everyone enjoyed coffee and dessert. Thank you so much for making the effort to come. See you in October at the YACO Dinner at the Elks'. Please call me for reservations — 724-1284.

Toodle . . . oo

## SRETAN ROĐENDAN

October - ites:  
 Steve Zupan, Watsonville  
 Pete Bilsich, San Jose  
 Antoinette Abate, Mountain View  
 Mary Siefke, Watsonville

## DAY OF THE WEEK

1893. Sunday. Nedelja. *NE-de-lja.*
1894. Monday. Ponedeljak. *po-NE-de-lak.*
1895. Tuesday. Utorak. *OO-to-rak.*
1896. Wednesday. Sreda. *SRE-da.*
1897. Thursday. Četvrtak. *chet-VÜR-tak.*
1898. Friday. Petak. *PE-tak.*
1899. Saturday. Subota. *SOO-bo-ta.*

# Pjesme iz Starog kraja

## Noćna muzika

Stihovi: STIJEPO MIJOVIĆ KOČAN

*Barcarola*

U-sred ti-ši-ne gra-da  
A-ko si po-šla spa-vat  
i u-snule lje-pote  
bi-la ti la-ka noć.  
mu-si-ca di notte".  
-kantat će ti doc.

B F7 B G7 Cm Gm

Dm 1. Gm 2. Gm F7 |

B F Eb Ed B F7 Bp

tvo-ri ta - da pro-zor i stu-šaj na-še no - te, o

### Noćna muzika

*Usred tišine grada  
i usnule ljestvite.  
tiha se čuje gitara  
»La musica di notte«.*

*Ako si pošla spavat  
bila ti laka noć,  
družina naša s pjesmom  
zakantat će ti doc.*

*Otvori tada prozor  
i slušaj naše note,  
o ljubavi ćemo pjevat  
»La musica di notte«.*

Glazba: ĐELO JUSIC

ju - bav i-će - mo pje- vat, La mu-si-ca di no - tre  
tvo-ri ta - da pro-zor i stu-šaj na-še no - te.  
ju - bav i-će - mo pje- vat, La mu-si-ca di no - re  
Del. S. Del. S. B F7 Bp  
mu-si-ca di no - re."

### Night Music

*Amidst the stillness of twilight  
and slumbering charms,  
Quiet strum the guitar strings  
»La musica di notte«.*

*If you have gone to bed now  
Dream the sweetest dreams,  
With its song our company  
Will serenade tonight.*

*Open wide your window  
And listen to our music,  
Of romance we will serenade,  
»La musica di notte«.*

# A SLAVONIAN WEDDING

BY GOJKO JOKIĆ

*Photos by D. MANOLEV*





Every year in September, Vinkovci, a town in Slavonia, stages a series of cultural, economic and tourist events which together are called the "Vinkovci Autumn". There are some 20 events on the programme and several thousand people take part in them as performers.

The most spectacular event is the festival of original folk art of Slavonia and Baranja, the largest of its kind in Yugoslavia. On the day, in the first or second week of September, two, three and sometimes four thousand men and women parade through the streets of Vinkovci clad in colourful folk costumes. They are members of more than 50 village culture and arts societies. A carriage and pair, pulled by Lippizaner horses, all elaborately decorated, are a special attraction. After the parade, the crowds converge on the local stadium to watch festival performances and relish the authentic songs and dances, costumes and customs of Slavonia.

The rich and varied programme of folk performances and cultural events at the "Vinkovci Autumn" festival also includes

so-called *Šokački divani*, gatherings on nearby farming estates. Sitting round the heavily laden tables, everybody is invited to tuck into the fine Slavonian food, join in the singing and exchange jokes with his neighbour. In the neighbouring village of Borinci, a feast is held to mark the beginning of the apple-picking season on the largest plantation of this fruit in Europe.

It is not by accident that Vinkovci plays host to this festival of folklore every autumn. Slavonian villages, scattered over the fertile plain between the Sava and Danube rivers, preserve and cherish the traditions handed down to them by previous generations. These traditions are deeply ingrained in every Slavonian man and woman.

*In the Slavonian village of Nijemci, some 30 km. from Vinkovci, Martin Peštarović (24) married Katica Balajević (17).*

*The parents of the bridal couple prepared the wedding feast in accordance with Slavonian customs.*



The grandfather's and grandmother's apparel is treasured, regularly brushed and aired, and kept in the wooden chests that can be found in every Slavonian home. While simpler folk costumes are worn every day, the finest clothes are reserved for festive occasions. They add colour to the village life, and the "Vinkovci Autumn" folk festival is the chance to show off the best that one has.

The spirit of tradition lives on, and wedding ceremonies are very much a part of it.

Evidence of this was a recent wedding in the village of Nijemci, 30 kilometres from Vinkovci. A local girl, Katica Belajević, aged 17, was being given in marriage to 24-year-old Martin Reštarović, both coming from respected farming families. The couple's parents had arranged for the wedding ceremony to take place according to old Slavonian custom. The forms to be observed go back centuries. Preparations got under way well in advance — more than 500 wedding guests had to be welcomed and entertained.

On the eve of the wedding, Martin invited his friends to a feast to share with him the sorrows of parting with his bachelor life. The next morning, the wedding guests gathered at the bridegroom's home and then they all together, to the sound of music provided by the local band, marched off to fetch the best man, who was awaiting them in his spacious courtyard. It was there that the real merrymaking began. Then back to the bridegroom's house again for the special lunch with all the guests doing justice to



About 500 guests were entertained in the two homes.

All the wedding guests were dressed in traditional costume. The wedding feast lasted all night.

Similar wedding customs are maintained in other villages in the region of Slavonia.

his household's magnificent cuisine.

Meanwhile, at the Belajević house, the finishing touches were being put to the bride's wedding dress and to the arrangements to welcome the groom and his party.

After lunch, the bridegroom decided it was time he called for his bride. So he headed the long procession to her home with his father and the blaring band bringing up the rear and painting the village red with singing, dancing, drinking and shooting.

Outside the bride's home, at least 500 guests in folk costume waited for her brothers to lead the girl out and start the traditional "bargaining" with the bridegroom.

This over, the party went first to the local registrar and then to the church for the wedding ceremonies. Later they all returned to the bridegroom's house where the mother-in-law, who assumed the role of master of ceremonies, was waiting for them at the threshold.

The feasting that followed lasted until the small hours, and some guests continued well into the next day. But the newly-weds had retired at midnight after receiving their wedding gifts.

The wedding in Nijemci, a rich Slavonian village of hardworking peasants (it was first mentioned in records dating from 1009) was not a prearranged folklore event but a genuine wedding according to the old customs and traditions:

Nijemci is not the only village in Slavonia which keeps alive the customs inherited from the past. This is also true of Ivankovo, Babina Greda, Mikanovci, Otok and other villages.

This is exactly why it is possible at the "Vinkovci Autumn" festival to see authentic folk traditions and customs and to hear original folk songs.

Some Slavonian villages — thanks to the efforts of the Vinkovci Tourist Society — have become centres of tourism in the countryside.





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# JOIN US TODAY

YACO was established in 1979 as a non-profit club without political or religious ties for the sole purpose of bringing together Yugoslavs and other interested persons to make known and to preserve our Slavic heritage. We are proud that among our membership we have families and individuals whose roots represent each region of present-day Yugoslavia, as well as non-slavic members who support the club's goals.

A year-around series of programs and events has proven an enjoyable way for YACO to provide its focus on Slavic heritage. Such activities include picnics, lectures and slide presentations on Yugoslavia and its historic culture, plus potluck and sit-down dinners. We also publish a monthly newsletter, THE KALIFORNSKI, full of interesting articles, recipes, and news of our area's Yugoslav community.

Our meetings (the first Sunday of each month) may include a potluck, special dinner, films, dancing, and raffles, plus we hold an annual July barbecue.

Won't you accept our invitation to join us? We're sure you'll soon find YACO to be one of your favorite clubs.

Our dues are as follows:

Single membership ..... \$12  
Family membership ..... \$18

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

Husband: \_\_\_\_\_

Wife: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Yugoslav Background: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Children under 18 included in Family Membership:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# ATTENTION:

THE KALIFORNSKI is your publication. If there is anything in particular that you would like to see in any future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. If you have any subjects relating to Yugoslav heritage or about Yugoslavs, here or abroad, that you would like to share or see published in this newsletter, please let us know. We would appreciate your input in publishing this newsletter each month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us:

Dale Skillicorn and  
Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn  
c/o Rapid Offset Printing  
22 East Lake Avenue  
Watsonville, CA 95076  
(408) 724-2900

## SUGGESTED TOPICS:

1. Trips by YACO members
2. Visitors from the Old Country
3. Newspaper or magazine articles about Yugoslavia or Yugoslavs, local or abroad
4. Weddings, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, or special celebrations by YACO members
5. Civic or cultural contributions by Yugoslavs
6. Yugoslav recipes
7. Yugoslav songs, poetry or stories
8. Special family traditions for holidays, etc.
9. Yugoslav stories for children
10. Anything you think might be of interest to YACO members

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## NEW DEADLINE

A new DEADLINE has been set for the 10th of each month so that we might get the paper out even earlier. It seems that our members out of Watsonville are not receiving their KALIFORNSKI early enough to plan on attending any of our programs. Members in Watsonville receive their copies at least two days after mailing so it seems to be a problem with a hold up at the post office. If I don't have the information in time, I will not be able to publish it until the next issue. REMEMBER to send me any information by the 10th of each month.

## *BOARD of TRUSTEES*

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### No Paper?

If someone you know is not receiving the KALIFORNSKI, please let us know. We publish this for you, the membership, and would like each of you to have the opportunity to keep in touch with YACO. Contact us at Rapid Offset Printing, 22 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 – (408) 724-2900.

Dale Skillicorn and Janet (Pelich) Justus-Skillicorn

## CALENDAR

YACO DINNER  
at the Elks Lodge

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 6th

Hope to see  
you there!



MADONNA MANOR  
“WESTERN ROUNDUP” BAR-B-Q

from 1 to 3, Saturday, Oct. 13th  
at Madonna Manor Retirement Home  
1335 Byron Drive, Salinas

### OCTOBER

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